



# WFP Rwanda Country Brief

## Highlights

- WFP continues to support a growing number of Burundian and Congolese refugees hosted in six camps in Rwanda. Additionally, WFP is building national capacity to design and manage home grown hunger solutions.
- The refugee operation's resource situation remains critical. WFP urgently requires USD 8.7 million for the next six months (December 2017 – May 2018) to meet the refugee needs. In November, WFP reduced rations by 10 percent. If new contributions are not received soon, WFP will most likely reduce rations by 25 percent from January onwards in order to stretch available resources.

## WFP Assistance

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
<b>PRRO 200744</b> (Jan 2015 - Dec 2017)	<b>89.7 m</b>	<b>57.6m (64%)</b>	<b>8.7 m (63%)</b>

\*December 2017-May 2018

Common Country Programme (CCP)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
<b>CCP-200539</b> (Jul 2013-Jun 2018)	<b>51.9 m</b>	<b>44.2 m (85%)</b>	<b>-</b>

\*December 2017 – May 2018

The Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) targets 186,300 people, including Burundian and Congolese refugees, former Rwandan refugees returning home and children from the host communities attending the same schools as refugee children in and around refugee camps.

Refugees living in the camps in Rwanda entirely depend on assistance to meet their food needs, as they have limited access to livelihood activities.

WFP's assistance is provided through in-kind food and cash distributions and safety net interventions such as blanket supplementary feeding, targeted supplementary feeding and school meals. Cash transfers in lieu of in-kind food distributions are implemented in five out of the six camps, enabling refugees to purchase food of their choice at the local markets, thus contributing to the country's economy.

This refugee operation and its components were formulated based on consultative meetings with partners including the Government of Rwanda, UN agencies and the people that WFP assists.

WFP's portfolio of assistance under the Common Country Programme (CCP) focuses on national capacity development and on modelling innovations in food assistance. WFP's emphasis is on the provision of technical support to the government and enabling it to develop, design, and manage nationally owned, innovative hunger solutions, including school feeding.

WFP enhances resilience and livelihood opportunities for the most vulnerable and food insecure people, and strengthens the capacity of the government to reduce hunger.

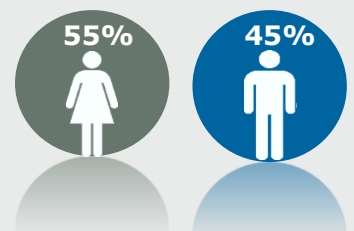
WFP builds resilience through community based asset creation activities and is based on WFP's long term experience in asset creation and existing government initiatives such as Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme (VUP), based on a participatory approach.

## In Numbers

**254,983** people were reached with WFP food assistance in November 2017.

**USD 704,078** were transferred to refugees in camps and vulnerable households

**People Assisted**  
November 2017



**Credit:** WFP/ JohnPaul Sesonga

**Caption:** The first consignment of locally procured food from small-holder farmers reached WFP warehouse, for home-grown school feeding programme. WFP provides lunch to over 83,000 school children from the most poor and vulnerable families in Rwanda.

Main Photo



**November 2017**

## Operational Updates

In November, WFP provided food assistance to 254,983 people, including vulnerable host populations and refugees in camps through general distributions and cash transfers, nutrition interventions, asset creation activities and school meals programmes in food insecure areas. WFP transferred USD 586,191 to 71,377 camp based refugees and USD 117,887 to 25,545 people participating in asset creation activities in the most food insecure areas under the Country Programme. In addition, WFP provided 1,120 mt of assorted food commodities to refugees in camps, returnees and school children attending schools in food insecure districts of Nyamagabe, Nyaruguru, Rutsiro and Karongi.

The refugee operation is facing serious resource shortfalls. WFP has reduced the November general distribution rations by 10 percent in order to stretch available resources. Without new contributions, WFP is planning to cut continue with the 10 percent ration reductions in December and implement further ration reductions by 25 percent from January 2018 onwards.

WFP continues to support small-holder farmers in Rwanda, providing training and linking them with buyers and agriculture service providers, including banks and crop insurance companies.

## Challenges

The refugee operation is facing serious funding shortfalls. Food stocks and cash transfers are running critically low. WFP needs USD 8.7 million in the next six months (December 2017-May 2018) to meet the needs of camp based refugees. Given the protracted crisis in Burundi and the deteriorating security situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which is likely to trigger further refugee influxes into Rwanda, it is essential to maintain adequate funding levels to be able to respond to the increased needs.

Under the Country Programme, a new phase of the prevention of stunting programme for children aged 6-23 months, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers has been discontinued due to lack of new funding. The discontinuation of the programme will erode gains made by the joint UN nutrition project in addressing stunting in Rwanda and will put children at risk in the most food insecure areas with high levels of chronic malnutrition.

## Country Background & Strategy



Rwanda has one of the highest population densities in Africa (471 people per square kilometre). It has a limited natural resource base; agriculture comes second of the main sectors contributing to the national gross domestic product (GDP) with over 31 percent after service sector (45 percent). Agriculture generates over 50 percent of total export revenue. Life expectancy in Rwanda is 66 years and households headed by women or orphans account for 36 percent of the population.

Since the 1994 genocide and the ensuing collapse of the economy and social services, the Government embarked on rebuilding the country and improving the quality of life through long and short term development programmes such as vision 2020 and the second Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS2). Rwanda was the first country to sign the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) compact and to secure funding, thus confirming malnutrition and food insecurity as one of the Government's key priorities.

WFP's strategy is to contribute towards making Rwanda a food secure country, where people are well nourished, able to develop to their full potential and living in resilient communities.

WFP has been present in Rwanda since 1975.

Population: **11.8 million**

2016 Human Development Index:  
**162 out of 188**

Income Level: **Low**

Chronic malnutrition:  
**37 percent of children between 6-59 months**

## Top Five Donors

**CP 200539:** USDA, Republic of Korea, Multilateral, MasterCard and UN Common Funds and Agencies (excl. CERF).

**PRRO 200744:** USAID, UK, Japan, EU and Canada